

# ANIMAL HEALTH INFORMATION

## Feeders of Ruminant Animals

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### **Do not mix feed for ruminant animals using feed ingredients labeled with the caution statement: “Do Not Feed To Cattle Or Other Ruminants.”**

Due to events in Washington State in December 2003, where a dairy cow was confirmed positive for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) or “Mad Cow Disease, MDAR is compelled to remind Feeders of Ruminant Animals about precautions that should be taken to prevent the establishment and amplification of BSE.

FDA regulation 21 CFR 589.2000 prohibits feeding protein derived from tissues of mammals to ruminant animals such as cattle, goats, deer, bison and buffalo.

The above cautionary statement is a label requirement stated in the BSE Compliance Guide for Protein Blenders, Feed Manufacturers, and Distributors for all feed containing “prohibited material”, with the exception below:

This requirement does not apply to pet food products that are sold or intended for sale at retail. **If pet food products are sold or are intended for sale as distressed or salvage items, then the cautionary statement is required.**

On-farm feeders of ruminant animals should not use any pet food products in their mixing or feeding operations unless 100% sure that they do not contain any “prohibited materials”, in other words, ingredients of mammalian origin.

**Be aware that the introduction of BSE into the US food supply and cattle population has very serious implications for human health and American agriculture. Any ruminants found to have been fed prohibited materials will be destroyed. Fines and other penalties may also be levied.**

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For further BSE information and compliance guides call Bob Rondeau at the  
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